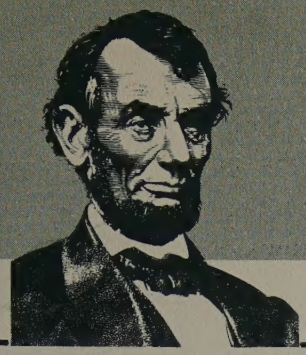


Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 1445 FORT WAYNE, INDIANA July, 1958

THE RAIL SPLITTER

A Chicago And Cincinnati Newspaper Published In The Interest Of The Lincoln-Hamilton Republican Ticket Of 1860.

Chicago Issue

In the presidential election year of 1860 Charles Leib, 65 Randolph Street (upstairs), Chicago, Illinois, launched Volume 1, Number 1, (June 23, 1860) of *The Rail Splitter*. In the introductory number Editor Leib stated on the editorial page that "we will earnestly advocate the principles of Republicanism because they are founded in right, and will give to the National, State, and County ticket, (when formed), a hearty support." The editor promised his readers "a warm and exciting campaign, in which there will be a great deal of crimination and recrimination."

The first issue was sent out to prospective Republican subscribers with the following sales promotional plea: "Every Republican who receives this number of *The Rail Splitter*, if he has not already done so, will, we hope, send us his subscription, and interest himself in getting up a good club of subscribers. It will be a live paper, and will handle the slavedriving Democracy without gloves. The terms of subscription are only fifty cents a copy during the campaign."

To encourage subscribers a supplement to *The Rail Splitter*, in the form of a broadside, was published which featured four woodcut cartoons (three caricatured Stephen A. Douglas) that were to appear in future issues. A special appeal was made to Wide Awakes to subscribe. True to the publisher's promise a cartoon was published in all but one of the eighteen issues. Of the seventeen cartoons published fifteen ridiculed Douglas. One issue (No. 17) carried a drawing of the Republican Wigwam at Chicago. Lincoln's formal portrait did not appear in this newspaper series. However, the portrait of Hannibal Hamlin the vice presidential candidate and running mate of the "Railsplitter" did appear in the October 13, 1860 (No. 17) issue.

On Monday, September 3, 1860, Charles Leib issued a large special edition of his newspaper called *The Pictorial Rail Splitter* using the same masthead as the regular issue but without volume number or issue number. The four page newspaper measures 24 x 19 inches and is eight columns wide. Single copies were five cents and quantity lots could be had for $4.00 per hundred. This special number carried portraits of Lincoln and Hamlin, the Chicago Wigwam, and miscellaneous cartoons. No clue is to be found in this pictorial issue why the special number was published unless it was to gain new subscribers and to whip up a more intense fervor among Republicans for the Lincoln-Hamlin ticket.

The pictorial issue did carry one article of unusual interest. A prediction was made that Lincoln would receive 179 electoral votes, Bell 58, Breckinridge 57 and Douglas 9. This was a fairly accurate prediction in that Lincoln actually received 180 electoral votes, Breckinridge 72, Bell 39 and Douglas 12.

The file of the Chicago *Rail Splitter* ran to eighteen issues all appearing on Saturday, from June 23, 1860 to October 27, 1860. The Lincoln National Life Foundation has the complete file as follows:

June 23, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 1
July 1, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 2
July 7, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 3

(Continued on page 2)

The Rail Splitter.
"The People of the United States are the Rightful Masters of both Congress and Courts."—ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
VOL. I. CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1860. NO. 1.

From The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Masthead of *The Rail Splitter*, Chicago, Illinois.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE
The Rail Splitter.
SUBSCRIBE FOR THE
RAIL SPLITTER!
Terms...Fifty Cents during the Campaign.
Every number contains an Engraving similar in character to those published in "Our Portrait Gallery."
No. 1.
No. 2.
No. 3.
No. 4.
The Rail Splitter will handle the Split Tail Democracy without Gloves.
Let every Wide Awake be sure to Subscribe.
Address CHARLES LEIB, Editor, Chicago, Ill.
Agents wanted in every town in the Northwest.
PLEASE POST THIS IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE.

From The Lincoln National Life Foundation

A rare broadside announcing the publication of *The Rail Splitter*, Chicago, Illinois.

July 14, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 4
July 21, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 5
July 28, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 6
August 4, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 7
August 11, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 8
August 18, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 9
August 25, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 10
September 1, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 11
September 8, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 12
September 15, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 13
September 22, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 14
September 29, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 15
October 6, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 16
October 13, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 17
October 27, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 18

Each issue measures approximately 26 x 14¼ inches and contains four printed pages with six columns on each page.

The "Prospectus" of *The Rail Splitter* stated that the newspaper would "be continued weekly until after the results of the Presidential Election shall be ascertained and announced in its columns." This promise was not fulfilled as no issue appeared on Saturday, November 3, 1860 and the glorious results of the election held on Tuesday, November 6, were not reported in an issue dated Saturday, November 10. Perhaps, as a device to influence the voter in the presidential contest this newspaper had served its purpose.

Cincinnati Issue

J. H. Jordan and J. B. McKeehan were the editors of the Cincinnati newspaper *The Rail Splitter*. Working entirely independent of the Chicago editor this newspaper was issued every Wednesday during the presidential campaign. It was to be a "PICTORIAL PAPER devoted to facts, arguments, and incidents, which will be of great service to the Republican cause throughout the United States. Each number of the RAIL SPLITTER will be ILLUSTRATED with ORIGINAL CUTS designed to take the 'starch' out of the 'Little Giant' and other Democratic 'Dough Faces,' and show them up in their true colors."

With a conservatively drawn Lincoln masthead this four page newspaper (18 x 13 inches) ran from August 1, 1860 to October 27, 1860 in thirteen issues. Wednesday was the day of publication but the last number (No. 13, Vol. 1) dated October 27, 1860 appeared on Saturday.

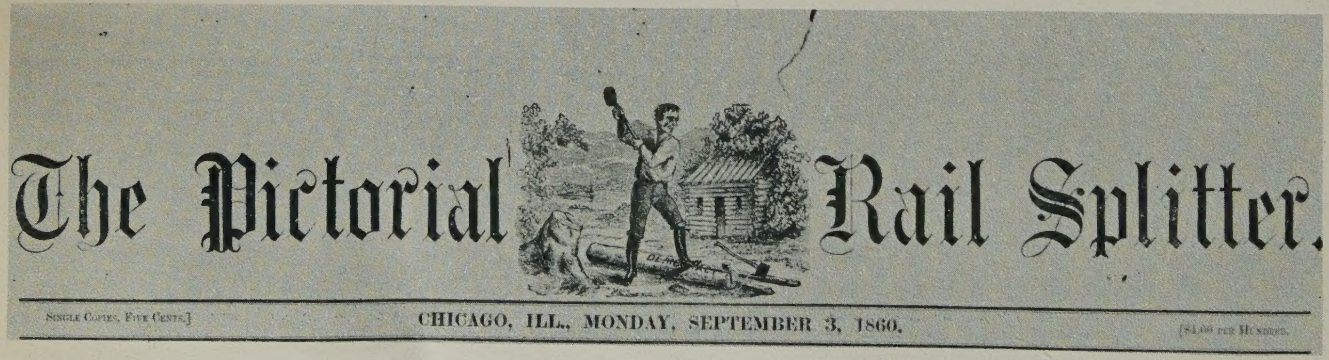
The Lincoln National Life Foundation has the complete file dated:

August 1, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 1
August 8, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 2
August 15, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 3
August 22, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 4
August 29, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 5
September 5, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 6
September 12. 1860 Vol. 1 No. 7
September 19, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 8
September 26, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 9
October 3, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 10
October 10, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 11
October 17, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 12
October 27, 1860 Vol. 1 No. 13

Each number, except one, featured a cartoon with Douglas bearing the brunt of the ridicule. The newspaper was apparently financed by an "Association of Republicans" and single copies sold for fifty cents. Purchased in quantities of twenty-five or more and bundled to be shipped to one address, copies could be purchased for twenty-five cents.

The publishers of this Cincinnati newspaper hoped to achieve nationwide circulation thinking that their paper

(Continued on page 3)



From The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Masthead of *The Pictorial Rail Splitter*, Chicago, Illinois. This newspaper contains fourteen illustrations.

From The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Masthead of *The Rail Splitter*, Cincinnati, Ohio.

PROSPECTUS.

LINCOLN AND HAMLIN.

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF 1860.

"THE

RAIL SPLITTER."

THE unanimous nomination, by the recent National Convention, at Chicago, of Hon. ABRAHAM LINCOLN, of Illinois, for next President, and Hon. HANNIBAL HAMLIN, of Maine, for Vice-President of the United States, has been responded to by the masses of the people of the country, with an enthusiasm which shows that these nominations were eminently "fit to be made," and that with these pure, patriotic, and distinguished leaders, the Republican perty, with proper exertions, is about to redeem the Republic from the hands of the "spoilers" of the present national administration.

In this emergency, and with these hopeful prospects, it becomes every lover of his country to seek the post where he may most efficiently serve the good cause, and taking his prsition, enlist for the war.

After viewing the ground carefully, we have concluded that our post of duty may be best filled by the establishment of a "*live newspaper*" for the campaign, to be called

"THE RAIL SPLITTER,"

and we have accordingly resolved upou such an enterprise. It will perhaps be unnecessary for us to add, that the sole object of our publication will be to advocate, and, if possible, to secure the triumph of the candidates and principles of the Republican party, as selected and laid down by their National Convention. We deem the selection of the candidates eminently wise and proper—to the platform of principles and policy, we yield oCr unreserved assent and approval, and are fully convinced that they are essential to the redemption of the government from misrule—to the restoration of the material interests of our people to prosperitp, and to the preservation of our liberties, and the National Constitution, and Union of the States.

Entertaining these views of the gravity of the issues, the merits of the Candidates and the platform, and the hopefulness of success, we shall devote our whole time and energies to the advocacy and support of these men and measures.

The first number of "The Rail Splitter" will be published about the 20th of June next, and be continued weekly until after the result of the Presidential Elcction shall be ascertained and announced in in its columns.

All communications on the subject of subscription and business relative to the paper, will be addressed to CHARLES LEIB,

Chicago, Illinois.

☞ Terms of "The Rail Splitter"—Single copy for the Campaign, (in advance) 50 cents.

Prospectus on page 4 of *The Rail Splitter*, Chicago, June 23, 1860.

(Continued from page 2)

would be the only Republican pictorial in the United States. They hoped to publish many articles of Republican correspondents from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and New York. They also advertised for good Republican political designs for illustrative purposes. However, *The Rail Splitter* never carried sufficient illustrations to merit the claim of being a pictorial newspaper.

The association of publishers unfurled their newspaper rather timidly and not until the fourth issue of August 22, 1860 did they reveal the names of Jordan and McKeehan as editors. Finally in the seventh issue of September 12, 1860 the publishers' name was disclosed as Dory, Spring & Co. This firm is not listed in the Cincinnati directory but P. Dory, a bookseller at 60 W. 4th (upstairs) is listed and that address was given as the location of the newspaper business office.

The Cincinnati publishers, like those in Chicago, failed to provide a paper that "will be issued every Wednesday during the campaign, and the last number to contain the results of the election." The last issue dated October 27, 1860 fell nine days short of election day and thus the subscribers were deprived of the final chapters of the "illustrated political history" which the publishers had so faithfully promised their subscribers.

While elaborate claims were made by both the Chicago and Cincinnati papers as to circulation it is believed that these newspapers had a very limited distribution. Very few files or even single numbers of either issue are found in research libraries and perhaps there is not extant another complete file of the Chicago issue.

Research historians were grateful to Ralph G. Newman in 1950, when he published in facsimile the complete file of the Cincinnati issues in an edition of 150 sets, which were offered for sale by The Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, Illinois.

INAUGURAL TOUR

When enroute from Springfield, Illinois to Washington, D. C. to be inaugurated president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln visited New York City on February 20-21, 1861. *Harper's Weekly*, March 2, 1861 commented editorially about the number of people who gathered to see Lincoln: "The last, though a very large crowd—probably exceeding 100,000 persons in number—was far less than those which went forth to stare at the Prince of Wales and the Japanese Princes, mainly from the fact that it contained few or no women. It would seem that the ladies, who suffered martyrdom to see the British Prince and endured some hardships to look at 'Tommy', did not care about seeing Mr. Lincoln".

CUMULATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY—1958

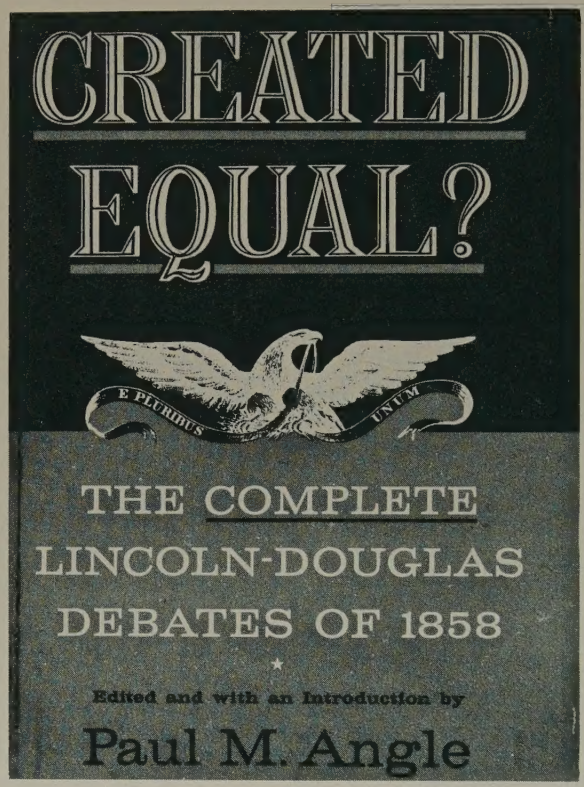
Selections approved by a Bibliography Committee consisting of the following members: Arnold Gates, 289 New Hyde Park Road, Garden City, N. Y.; Carl Haverlin, 2 Masterson Road, Bronxville, N. Y.; E. B. Long, 708 North Kenilworth Ave., Oak Park, Ill.; Richard F. Lufkin, 45 Milk Street, Boston, 9, Mass.; Wayne C. Temple, Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tenn.; Ralph G. Newman, 18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago 11, Ill.; William H. Townsend, 310 First National Bank Bldg., Lexington 3, Ky.; and Clyde C. Walton, Jr., Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Ill.

New items available for consideration may be sent to the above addresses or to the Lincoln National Life Foundation.

ANGLE, PAUL M. 1958-5

Created Equal?/The Complete/Lincoln-Douglas Debates/of 1958/Edited and with an Introduction by/Paul M. Angle/(Device)/The University of Chicago Press.
Book, cloth, 6½" x 9½", xxxiii, 421 pp., fr., price $7.50.

ANGLE, PAUL M. 1958-5a
(Same as above)
Special Edition: Volume XXXIII of the Collection of the Illinois State Historical Library.



LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY 1958-6

Lincoln Memorial University Press/Winter 1957-'8/Vol. 59, No. 4/Lincoln Herald/A Magazine devoted to historical/research in the field of Lincolniana and the Civil War, and to the promotion/of Lincoln Ideals in American/Education.
Pamphlet, flexible boards, 7" x 10", 40 pp.

SQUIRE, DICK 1958-7

Lincoln in the Magazines/During 1957/A Cumulative Bibliography/of Periodical Lincolniana/Number Three/by Dick Squire/The Lincoln Press, Bedford, Ohio/1958.
Pamphlet, flexible boards, 5½" x 8½", 32 pp.

MORROW, HONORE WILLSIE 1958-8

Honore Willsie Morrow/Forever Free/William Morrow and Company/Publishers New York.
Book, cloth, 5½" x 8½", vi, 405 pp., n. i. 1958 reprint by William Sloane Associates, Inc., N. Y. City, price $3.75.

MORROW, HONORE WILLSIE 1958-9

Honore Willsie Morrow/The Last Full Measure/William Morrow and Company/Publishers New York.
Book, cloth, 5½" x 8¼", viii, 337 pp., n. i. 1958 reprint by William Sloane Associates, Inc., N. Y. City, price $3.75.

MORROW, HONORE WILLSIE 1958-10

Honore Willsie Morrow/With Malice/Toward None/William Morrow and Company/Publishers/New York.
Book, cloth, 5½" x 8¼", v, 342 pp., n. i. 1958 reprint by William Sloane Associates, Inc., N. Y. City, price $3.75.

HOUSE, BRANT 1958-11

Edited by Brant House/Lincoln's/Wit/Ace Books, Inc./23 W. 47th St., New York, 36, N. Y.
Book, flexible boards, 4¼" x 6½", 256 pp. Ace Double Size Books D-268, price 35¢.

KAY, HELEN 1958-12

Lincoln A Big Man/by/Helen Kay/Illustrated by Arthur Polonsky/Hastings House Publishers New York.
Brochure, cloth, 7¾" x 10¼", 45 pp., illus., price $2.75. Juvenile title.

McCULLOCH, W. J. 1948-13

"Two Commanders-in-chief—Some Analogies"/by/W. J. McCulloch/Lincoln's Reading and Education/by Professor Albert P. Martin/Being the substance of addresses/delivered before the/Lincoln Fellowship of Hamilton, Canada/at the Scottish Rite Club/on the evening of February 12, 1958./(Cover title).
Pamphlet, paper, 5¼" x 8¼", (12) pp., illus.

SMITH, ARTHUR M. 1958-14

Address (Lincoln and Michigan) by/Mr. Arthur M. Smith/of Dearborn/President, Abraham Lincoln Civil War Round Table of Michigan/Before Joint Convention of the Michigan Legislature/February 13, 1958/(Cover title).
Pamphlet, paper, 6" x 9", 19 pp.

DUNLAP, LESLIE W. 1958-15

(Sketch of negro) The Great Debate/Lincoln vs. Douglas 1854-1861/An exhibit of Manuscripts and Printed Materials from/the Collections of Mr. and Mrs. Philip D. Sang, Chicago,/and of the University of Illinois Library/Selected and Described by Leslie W. Dunlap/The University Library/February 12—March 18, 1958.
Pamphlet, paper, 5" x 8½", 42 pp., illus.

DOLLIVER, JONATHAN P. 1958-16

Lincoln/A/Square Deal/For Every Man/Address delivered by the late Senator Jonathan P. Dolliver of Iowa, at the Lincoln Centennial,/Springfield, Illinois./February 12, 1909./(Device)/Eldnar House, Belleair, Florida/1958. Edition limited to 150 copies. Copy No. 14.
Pamphlet, flexible boards, 6" x 9¼", 15 pp.

PURTLE, HELEN R. 1958-17

(Reprinted from Bulletin of the History of Medicine, Vol. XXXII, No. 1, Jan.-Feb. 1958)/Lincoln Memorabilia in the Medical Museum of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology/Helen R. Purtle/(Caption title).
Pamphlet, paper, 7" x 10", 68-74 pp., illus.

HAMILTON, HOLMAN 1958-18

Continuity from Broadcast Music Inc./"The Book Parade"/Congressman Abraham Lincoln/by Donald W. Riddle/Guest Reviewer: Holman Hamilton/Number: BP-339/Time: 14030 . . ./Copyright 1958, Broadcast Music, Inc./Work may be performed without special permission by any BMI Licensee/(Caption title).
Loose leaf sheets, paper, 8½" x 11", 5 pp.

EIFERT, VIRGINIA S. 1958-19

With A/Task Before Me/Abraham Lincoln Leaves Springfield/by/Virginia S. Eifert/Illustrated by Manning De V. Lee/Dodd, Mead & Company. New York 1958.
Book, cloth, 6½" x 9½", 218 pp., fr., illus., price $3.00.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, THE 1958-20

The Library of Congress. The Alfred Whital Stern Collection of Lincolniana/The Illinois Political Campaign of 1858/A facsimile of the Printer's Copy of his Debates with/Senator Stephen Arnold Douglas as Edited and Prepared/for Press by Abraham Lincoln/(Library of Congress insignia).
Book, cloth, 10¼" x 15½", 211 pp., price $10.

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION 1958-21

Lincoln Lore/Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation/Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor/Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne/Indiana/Number 1442 April 1958—Number 1444 June 1958/(Caption title).
Folder, paper, 8½" x 11", 4 pp., illus. Number 1442, The Lincolns: Pioneer Horse Breeders and Racing Enthusiasts . . .; 1443, "Viva La Bagatella" Lives of Presidential Candidates . . .; 1444, Most Significant Lincoln Cartoon-February 12, 1958 . . .